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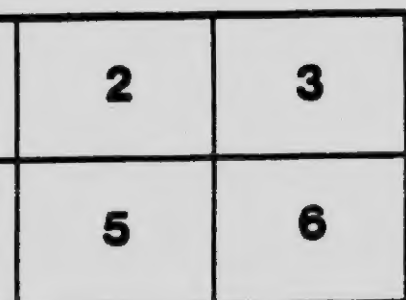
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① A NATIONAL
MEMORIAL TOWER



AN APPEAL

JANUARY, 1909

Don't

PC 2346

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N37

"A wise nation preserves its records, gathers up its monuments, decorates the tombs of its illustrious dead, repairs its great public structures, and fosters national pride and love of country, by perpetual references to the sacrifices and glories of the past."

—Joseph Howe



THE subject of this appeal has reference to an undertaking which, in the common interests of the Dominion, the Canadian Club of Halifax has felt it a public duty to initiate. The immediate object of the undertaking is to commemorate, in a fitting manner, the birth of British Parliamentary Government within the limits of Greater Britain.

A century and a half ago, two historical events occurred nearly at the same time. The first in chronological order, seemed for many years to be of little moment. It consisted of a gathering of a few persons—representing the new settlers in Nova Scotia. The second was a conflict on the Plains of Abraham, at Quebec. The first occurred on October 2nd, 1758; the second on September 13th, 1759. The first was the initial meeting of nineteen out of twenty persons elected by command of the authorities in England to form a legislature. The second was an encounter between the armed forces of the two most powerful nations of Western Europe. The two events had no resemblance, and can scarcely be compared. The battle marked the end of political conditions which had existed for a hundred and fifty years. The small initial assembly marks the beginning of the policy of self-government which has been continuously developed during the succeeding century and a half, and which seems destined to be continued while the civilized nations of the world endure.

The brilliant celebration at Quebec last summer, witnessed by vast multitudes, and honoured specially by the presence of the heir to the British Throne, and by representatives of the various parts of the Empire, bears eloquent testimony to the sentiments which Canadians of every origin entertain for their national traditions.

The mere mention of the city founded by Champlain three centuries ago, recalls some of the most attractive pages of history. Its annals are rich in feats of arms, in the achievements of military heroes, and in the self-sacrifice of devoted men and women. Within the ramparts of Quebec, projects were conceived for the conquest and civilization of a continent.

For many generations after the discovery of Canada by the French, the stronghold of Quebec was certainly the focus of military and intellectual activity. If, however, we examine its condition from the standpoint of the present day; if we carry our mental vision through the long vista of a hundred and fifty years which have intervened, the perspective of so many generations makes manifest that an element essential to permanency was wanting, that the masses were entire strangers to constitutional freedom, and that the people had little voice in regard to their own destiny.

In the middle of the eighteenth century, the "Great Commoner," William Pitt, with far-reaching and wise prescience, breathed his lofty spirit into the nation he served, and by his advocacy of popular liberty, by sanctioning the initiation of Parliamentary Government in territory now within the Dominion of Canada, he appealed to the higher sentiments of man in every portion of the world. As already stated, it was in 1758 that a small Parliament of elected representatives of the people was established in Halifax, on the model of the English House of Commons, and that it met for the first time on October 2nd of that year. The records of this Parliamentary Assembly have been preserved from the day on which it elected its first Speaker and was formally opened by the Governor, up to the present time. It has assembled yearly during the last one hundred and fifty years. Since the germ of Representative Government was planted in Halifax in 1758, there have been developed nine provincial and one federal legislatures in

Canada alone, and some thirty-three in the whole British Dominion, while throughout the world most foreign nations have followed in the wake of England and Canada. Even Turkey has recently emancipated herself, and the few remaining nations still under absolutism are beginning to throb with new life and the prospect of constitutional liberty.

With the facts thus placed before us we are now able to perceive that the humble gathering of the nineteen representatives of the early settlers in Nova Scotia, if lacking in the brilliancy and glory of the second great event above alluded to as having occurred in the year following on the Plains of Abraham, has undoubtedly proved to be one of the most remarkable epochs in the development of civilization.

As one of the results of great geographical discoveries some centuries back, a whole family of empires arose. There came into being the Spanish, the French, the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British. All but one of these empires were based on the political ideas of absolutism which at that period so generally prevailed. In consequence of this feature they were beset with dangers. Of all these empires, the British alone survives, and the survival of the British Empire is owing to its political organization being entirely different from that of any other empire of which we have any record in history; the solution of the problem in this case having been effected, as described, by granting a representative institution to each part so soon as the people were ready for it.

Canada begins the year 1909 in a peculiarly happy position, with untold natural resources and a steadily increasing industrious population to develop them. The French and English elements have been in friendly contact for a century and a half. The union may not as yet in all respects be complete, but, as in the generations which followed the Norman conquest of England, the

two races, having had opportunities of knowing each other, have learned to understand and respect each other, and have established the most friendly relations. We can never forget that in the United Kingdom, under similar conditions, the gradual union of the descendants of the French invaders with the native population, produced the truest of citizens and patriots in every sense. From this union and admixture sprung the men who ever since have been among the best leaders of England in peace and in war. Moreover, we have in Canada the inestimable advantage of what we may justly regard as the best system of government invented by man—a system which may not be in all respects perfect, but of which it may well be said, there is no better system as yet in use among the nations which inhabit our planet.

The two historical events alluded to at the outset are widely different. Taken together they may be regarded as of supreme importance, and to the descendants of both races who were engaged in the early struggles they are of special interest. At this distance of time it will be seen, and readily admitted, that mutual benefits have been the outcome. On the one hand the glories of New France having passed into Canadian history on the Plains of Abraham, the pageants of last summer have made plain to the British community how much they gain by the historical inheritance.

On the other hand, Canadians of French origin have acquired complete political liberty as citizens of a self-governing country, and members at the same time of that vaster imperial system which is recognized throughout the world as the bulwark of political freedom and the type of all that is lofty and honourable. Equally with others they follow their own ideals, and perhaps more than others in Canada know what British institutions can effect.

The members of the Canadian Club of Halifax, in view of all the circumstances, feel warranted in appealing

to their fellow Canadian citizens for contributions to aid in erecting an Historic Tower to commemorate the memorable epoch which has been specially alluded to, and to symbolize the progress of the united Canadian people for a period of a hundred and fifty years. In this patriotic movement large contributions are not solicited; there are reasons for preferring small sums from many sources.

The foundation stone of the Tower was formally laid by Lieutenant-Governor Fraser of Nova Scotia on October 2nd, 1908, that day being the semi-tercentenary of the origin to which Parliamentary Government within the Canadian Dominion may be traced. The Tower is designed to have many galleries dedicated to the memory of men who have served their country, and it has been suggested that the ground chamber be associated with the name of the illustrious statesman, William Pitt.

When completed, this national memorial will bridge over the century and a half of years which have elapsed since the British Empire took root in Nova Scotia, a date anterior to the possession by Great Britain of Australia, New Zealand, the Cape of Good Hope, and India. The contemplated Tower will stand out as a message from the past; it will be an object lesson to remind our youth and the youth of every coming generation how deeply indebted we are to the great Mother of Parliaments for our inherited blessings. The Tower to be erected as a national landmark will be a famous teacher of Canadian history. Its continual tendency will be to awaken and nourish not only local, but likewise the widest patriotism; it will foster loyalty to that Empire which as a common heritage we call our own; it will inspire a feeling of admiration and attachment to that humanizing and civilizing force which has had no equal since the world began.

Elective Legislatures with dates of First Assemblies.

	Date.	Place.	Members.
Nova Scotia	Oct. 2, 1758	Halifax	19
Prince Edward Island	July 7, 1773	Charlottetown	
New Brunswick	Jan. 3, 1786	St. John	26
Upper Canada	Sep. 18, 1792	Niagara	16
Lower Canada	Dec. 17, 1792	Quebec	50
Newfoundland	Jan. 1, 1833	St. John's	15
Upper and Lower Canada	June 14, 1841	Kingston	84
" "	Nov. 2, 1844	Montreal	84
" "	May 14, 1850	Toronto	84
" "	Aug. 29, 1852	Quebec	84
Cape Colony	May 1, 1853	Cape Town	
New Zealand	May 27, 1854	Auckland	
New South Wales .....	..... 1855	Sydney	
Victoria .....	..... 1855	Melbourne	
Tasmania .....	..... 1856	Hobart	
South Australia .....	..... 1856	Adelaide	
Queensland .....	..... 1859	Brisbane	
Upper and Lower Canada	June 8, 1866	Ottawa	84
Province of Quebec	Sep. 24, 1867	Quebec	65
Dominion of Canada	Nov. 6, 1867	Ottawa	181
Prov. of Ontario	Dec. 27, 1867	Toronto	81
" Nova Scotia	Jan. 30, 1868	Halifax	38
" New Brunswick ..	Feb. 13, 1868	Fredericton	41
" Manitoba	Mar. 15, 1871	Winnipeg	28
" British Columbia ..	Feb. 16, 1872	Victoria	25
" P. E. Island	Mar. 5, 1874	Charlottetown	31
West Australia .....	..... 1890	Perth	
Natal .....	..... 1893	Petermaritzburg	43
Commonwealth Australia ..	May 9, 1901	Melbourne	
Prov. of Alberta	Mar. 15, 1906	Regina	
" Saskatchewan	Mar. 29, 1906	Edmonton	
Orange River	July 1, 1907	Bloomfontein	38
Transvaal	July 1, 1907	Pretoria	69

The list makes no mention of the West Indies, where representative government was introduced at an early date. The system of government of Jamaica was changed in 1866 and replaced by a legislative council appointed by the Crown. The example of Jamaica, in the abrogation of the original system, has been followed in the other colonies of the West Indies.



This Tablet is to commemorate the convening of the first general assembly of Nova Scotia which met for the despatch of business at the Court House at Halifax on October 2nd 1758 in the time of His Excellency Charles Lawrence, Esquire, Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Province of Nova Scotia: Robert Sanderson, Speaker of the House of Assembly, and David Lloyd, Clerk of the Assembly:

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

JOSEPH GERRISH, ESQUIRE.	WILLIAM FOYE, ESQUIRE.
ROBERT SANDERSON. "	WILLIAM NESBITT. "
HENRY NEWTON. "	JOSEPH RUNDDEL. "
JONATHAN BINNEY, GENTLEMAN.	HENRY FERGUSON, GENTLEMAN.
GEORGE SUCKLING. "	JOHN BURBIDGE. "
ROBERT CAMPBELL. "	WILLIAM PANTREE. "
JOSEPH FAIRBANKS. "	PHILIP HAMMOND. "
JOHN FILLIS. "	LAMBERT FOLKERS. "
PHILIP KNAUF. "	WILLIAM BEST. "
ALEXANDER KZME. "	MALACHY SALTER. "

THIS TABLET WAS ERECTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA IN
AUGUST, 1908:

HIS HONOUR D.C. FRASER.

HON. G. H. MURRAY.

CHIEF SECRETARY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.

BRASS TABLET UNVEILED AT THE PROVINCE BUILDING
AUGUST 19th, 1908.

PATRON:

His Excellency The Right Honourable Earl Grey, G. C. M. G., G. C. V. O., P. C., etc.,
Governor-General of Canada.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

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"	Sir Daniel H. McMillan,	"	"	Manitoba.
"	L. J. Tweedie, Esq.,	"	"	New Brunswick.
"	D. C. Fraser, Esq.,	"	"	Nova Scotia.
"	Colonel J. M. Gibson,	"	"	Ontario.
"	D. A. McKinnon, Esq.,	"	"	P. E. Island
"	Sir C. A. P. Pelletier, K.C.M.G., P. C.,	"	"	Quebec.
"	A. E. Forget, Esq.,	"	"	Saskatchewan.

His Grace the Most Reverend E. J. McCarthy, D. D., Archbishop of Halifax ; His
Lordship the Right Reverend C. L. Worrell, D. C. L., Lord Bishop of Nova
Scotia ; Honourable W. S. Fielding ; Brigadier-General Drury, C. B.,
A. D. C. ; Honourable G. H. Murray ; R. L. Borden, Esq., K. C., M. P. ;
Sir Sandford Fleming, K. C. M. G. ; His Honour Judge Savary ;
The Mayor of Halifax ; John Forrest, D. D., LL.D. ;
David Allison, LL. D. ; W. B. Hutchinson, D. D.
N. Curry, Esq. ; Graham Fraser, Esq. ;
J. S. McLennan, Esq.



Cable Address: "Canada, Halifax, Canada."

The Canadian Club of Halifax

1909

[Founded February 7, 1907]

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Lt.-Governor of Nova Scotia

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